

Reflection of a Mirror

- So accurate – in every home /restaurant /car
- quick glance – have a nearly exact replica
- only looking at a piece of silver coated glass but our eyes focus on clear reflected image
- we “**see**” the image, not silver on the glass
- This is the **only way** we can **see ourselves** or **what is behind us** when driving a car.

Not ALL Mirrors are Created Equal

- My passenger mirror: **“OBJECTS IN MIRROR ARE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR”**
- “The surface may be either convex (bulging outwards) or concave (bulging inwards).”
- **Distorting mirrors are used for entertainment.**
They have convex and concave regions that produce deliberately distorted images.





What About God?

- *because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. 20 For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, Rom 1:19-20*

The Curse

- Made the Creation – Concave and Convex
- God is very clear that the creation He gave us and the one we now see are not the same.

The Curse – Concave & Convex

- *I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind. 15 What is crooked cannot be made straight, And what is lacking cannot be numbered. Eccl 1:14-15*
- *Consider the work of God; For who can make straight what He has made crooked? 14 In the day of prosperity be joyful, But in the day of adversity consider: Eccl 7:13-14*



What Kind of World Did God Create?



In the Beginning....

Was There A Curse?

- Gen 1:4 Light was **good**
- Gen 1:10 Dry land(earth) and seas were **good**
- Gen 1:12 Plants and trees with seed - were **good**
- Gen 1:18 The sun moon and stars were **good**
- Gen 1:21 Creatures in the water & air were **good**
- Gen 1:25 Beasts, cattle, everything on ground was **good.**
- Gen 1:31 All that He had made:
- **Behold, it was very good.**

Good

- *“that which is good to the senses, agreeable, pleasant, and desirable; beautiful, fair”*
- *“of that which is useful, fit and suitable;”*
- *“applied to things prosperous and abundant; to happiness and joyfulness; to advantage and pleasure... to be good, to go well, to please”*

Very Good

- “goodness, good condition,; what is good or best” *Wilson, p 197*
- *Very: exceedingly, greatly, very (whether of magnitude or degree* **Brown-Driver-Briggs**
- The Material Creation as it came from the hands of God was very good.

This was the perfect mirror of God

- Only Adam and Eve saw it.
- After they ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and were cast out of the garden, everything changed.
- *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, Rom 5:12*
- *For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."*
Gen 3:19



Then Came the Curse

- FROM VERY GOOD TO: Cursed. Gen 3:17-19
- *"I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; 17 Then to Adam He said, "Because you have heeded the voice of your wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it': "Cursed is the ground for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. 18 Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, Gen 3:17-18*



Then Came the Curse

FROM VERY GOOD TO:

- *"Vanity of vanities," says the Preacher; "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." Eccl 1:2-3*
- *And I set my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all that is done under heaven; this burdensome task God has given to the sons of man, by which they may be exercised. 14 I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; and indeed, all is vanity and grasping for the wind. 15 What is crooked cannot be made straight, And what is lacking cannot be numbered. Eccl 1:13-15*



Then Came the Curse

FROM VERY GOOD TO: Rom 8:20-24

For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; 21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God. 22 For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now. 23 Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.



Then Came the Curse

- VERY GOOD – WHAT WAS LOST???
- Gen 1:29-30
- *Behold, I have given you every herb yielding seed, and every tree, in which is the fruit to you it shall be for food:*
- *and to every beast of the earth,*
- *and to every bird of the heavens,*
- *and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, wherein there is life, I have given every green herb for food: and it was so.*

The Blemishes Create Questions

- ◆ If God is good why did he create suffering?
- ▲ Why butterflies get caught in spider webs?
- ◆ Why did God create spiders with poison?
- ▲ Why do lions kill man and beast?
- ◆ Why are sharks killing machines?
- ▲ Why do some serpents have deadly poison?
- ◆ Why is man susceptible to so many diseases?
- ▲ Why is man so cruel to his fellow man?
- **THE ANSWER IS SIN FROM THE CURSE!**
- **Sin entered world thru man and death thru sin**



God's True Character

- *Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. 18 Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.*
James 1:16-18

God's True Intentions



- Of his own will he brought us forth James 1:18
- The Curse is no more! Rev 22:3
- Rev 21:4
- he shall wipe away every tear from their eyes;
- death shall be no more;
- neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain, any more: the first things are passed away.

Suffering We Cannot Understand

- Healthy Attitude # 1
- God made the creation very good!(Gen 1:31)
- Suffering was impossible in world God created
- Curse a just penalty for man's sin(Gen 3:17-19).
- The curse of sin is the reason for all suffering.
Eccl 1:13-15; Rom 8:20-23;
- We are to blame, not God. (Rom 5:12).

